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P.O. Box 404

Ruskin, FL

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NOV 19 1993

Bob Courter

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12 NOV 1993

Gentlemen:

FCC-MAIL ROOM

As you may infer from my salutation, I am a "senior"; not Politically Correct, retiree who is living on a limited fixed income but who also is an active registered voter.

I write you, concerned the rumored (or planned?) increase again for Marine Radio Station Licenses will cause many like myself to pitch VHF's over the side, resorting to small 'Radio Shack' battery WX receivers!

The taxing appetite of my government continues to amaze me; particularly the creativity exercised in selecting small specially-targeted groups who appear the most ~~vulnerable~~ ^{vulnerable}. Why not tax CB Radios, the taxi cab fleets, fire and/or police radios, etc? The income compared to us ~~boaters~~ ^{boaters} would be phenomenal; but, alas so would be the opposition!

You may be assured that both my active participation in the US Coast Guard Auxiliary together with my ownership of Marine VHF radios will cease upon the increase of my license fees! I pray you will consider other more viable sources for your thirst for revenues.

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Quig

Yours truly
Robert G. Courter

Robert G. COURTER
LCDR USNR-Ret.

Gentlemen:

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FCC - MAIL ROOM

MD 94-19

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We are writing to express our negative view of the new fee of \$35⁰⁰ that is slated to be added to the VHF license fee. We purchased our radio for safety purposes and belief an added fee to those already in existence would put an added burden on the average boater. We are being hit with new fees and taxes every time we turn around. Soon it will be cheaper to get a cellular phone to use on our boat. It seems that everything is going up in price but our wages sure aren't.

Thank you for your time

George & Margie Golden
5908- 8th Ave South
Tampa Florida 33619-4565

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11/17/93

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Dear Suz

PRIVATE

SPEC

In reference to the new proposal
of increasing the VHF marine license

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fee. If this goes into effect

NOV 19 1993

I will not carry a radio

ECC - MAIL ROOM

hope the Coast Guard will come

and rescue me anyway if I

need help. I have a 20 ft

boat and pay enough taxes

on everything. I am 65 years old

and don't need any more taxes

Archie

U.S. Boat member

USPS member

P.O. Box 853

Barnesight Light

NS 08006

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Archie

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W. F. Varner

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Gerald Varner
1375 S. Cocalico
Denver, PA 17517

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NOV 19 1993

Nov. 18, 1993

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Secretary of the FCC
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC 20554

Mr./Ms. Secretary:

I recently read in BOAT/US REPORTS of the idea to add a new fee to the price of the license for VHF radios. I really believe that this additional fee would have a negative effect to the safety of boating. With the price of gas at marinas already out of line, this extra fee for the VHF license would encourage boaters either to use the radio without a license or to go without a radio at all. This could become the biggest problem as far as safety, for we all are aware of what an essential tool the VHF radio is when boating on large areas of water.

Should this extra fee go into effect, I feel many boaters would do as I would do: buy a portable VHF and remove the antenna from my boat.

With the amount of money boaters spend for gas, equipment, and the legal necessities, can't we just be left alone?

Truly,

Gerald Varner

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Mr. Secretary,

FCC - MAIL ROOM

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I saw an article in one of my boating magazines, where you, the "F.C.C." wants to increase the fee for VHF radio licenses.

I am a boater, small boat, but still a boater and am wondering for what purpose do you people want to increase the existing fees.

You people, the "F.C.C.", don't make radios, you don't sell radios or do anything pertaining to the radios, except control the air waves. Oh yes, and raise fees.

Mr. Secretary, if you owned a boat and were retired, please think about these excessive licenses fees, as if you were a boater.

Respectively Yours
Charles E. Hortofan

CHARLES E. Hortofan

119 JAN WALL ST

ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403

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PRIVATE RADIO BUREAU
SPEC. SERVICES

NOV 20 1993

1075 Klem Road
Webster, NY 14580
November 14, 1993

Secretary to the FCC
c/o Office of the Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Secretary:

I understand that the FCC is discussing an increase in the VHF user fee for marine radios. This fee is in addition to the \$35 licensing fee and will effectively double the cost of using a VHF radio. I question the reasonableness of this increase for three reasons.

First, the VHF radio is the first line of emergency communication for boaters. The increase in user fees will reduce the number of people who use the VHF radio, at the risk of their safety.

Second, I wonder if all users of the air waves are being taxed (that's really all the fee is) equally. Do you tax non-marine VHF radio, cellular phones, CB radios, single side band radios, and ham radios equally on a per minute use basis? I doubt it. I don't mind paying my fair share, but I hate it when government takes advantage of the supposedly affluent boating population.

Lastly, since VHF licensing is difficult to enforce, the increase in fees will increase the number of illegal users. Whatever budget deficit you are planning on correcting, you will wind up short due to the people who don't renew their license. If you have already built attrition in to the fee increase formula, you are punishing honest citizens for your choice of a licensing system which is unenforceable, and I question your integrity.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Smalter

Michael E. Smalter

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Nov. 17, 1993

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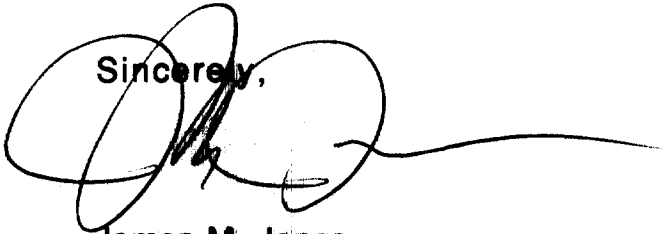
Secretary of the FCC
c/o Office of the Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Sir:

I have recently read that the FCC may be proposing that the current \$35 fee for marine licensing be doubled with additional "user fees." I would like to voice strong opposition to this proposal. The Marine VHF radio is a vital piece of safety equipment for the recreational boater. If anything this fee should only apply to commercial vessels and recreational boaters should be exempted to encourage them to equip their vessels as a matter of safety. Recreational boaters receive no financial reward for use of their vessel.

In summary, additional fees will either discourage many from equipping their vessels with this safety equipment or attempt to evade the law. In either case we all lose. If anything the FCC should encourage safe boating by eliminating the fee entirely for recreationally registered vessels. Thank you for your time, and I ask that you will give serious consideration to the overall issue of boating safety.

Sincerely,



James M. Jones
1255 Twin Pine Run
Oviedo, FL 32765

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7140 Presley Road
Lanham, Maryland 20706

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Secretary of the FCC
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I write to express my vehement opposition to the proposed "user fee" for holders of VHF marine radio licenses. Enough said.

Very truly yours,

Louise W. Fawbush

Louise W. Fawbush

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